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Dkt. 54205-A-PCT-US/JPW/GJC

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : John F. O'Connor, et al.

U.S. Serial No. : Not Yet Known (Continuation Application of PCT/US99/02289, filed 3 February 1999)

Filed : Herewith

For : METHODS FOR PREDICTING PREGNANCY OUTCOME IN A SUBJECT BY hCG ASSAY

1185 Avenue Of The Americas
 New York, New York 10036
 August 1, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
 Washington, D.C. 20231
 Box: Patent Application

Sir:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TO THE ACCOMPANYING CONTINUATION
APPLICATION FILED UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.53**

Applicants request that the following amendment be made in the above-identified application:

In the Specification:

On page 1, after the title and before line 5, please delete the paragraph and insert the following new sentence:

--This application is a continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/US99/02289, filed 3 February 1999, designating the United States of America, which is claiming the priority of U.S. Serial No. 09/017,976, filed February 3, 1998, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference into the present application.--

09/017,976

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